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# STATE LAWS AND REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO PUBLIC HEALTH.

## PENNSYLVANIA.

**Communicable Diseases—Notification of Cases—Quarantine—Placarding—Disinfection—Attendance at Schools and Public Gatherings—Burial—Interference with Officers of Health Department. (Act 268, May 28, 1915.)**

SECTION 1. That every physician practicing in any portion of this Commonwealth who shall treat or examine any person suffering from or afflicted with actinomycosis, anthrax, bubonic plague, cerebrospinal meningitis (epidemic), (cerebrospinal fever, spotted fever), chicken-pox, Asiatic cholera, diphtheria (diphtheritic croup, membranous croup, putrid sore throat), epidemic dysentery (bacillary or amebic dysentery), erysipelas, German measles, glanders (farcy), rabies (hydrophobia), leprosy, malarial fever, measles, mumps, pneumonia (true), puerperal fever, relapsing fever, scarlet fever (scarlatina, scarlet rash), smallpox (variola, varioloid), tetanus, trachoma, trichiniasis, tuberculosis in any form, typhoid fever, paratyphoid fever, typhus fever, whooping cough, yellow fever, anterior poliomyelitis, impetigo contagiosa, pellagra, scabies, or uncinariasis shall, if said case shall be located in a township of the first class, a borough, or a city, forthwith make a report in writing to the health authorities of said township, city, or borough; and if said case shall be located in a township of the second class or a city, borough, or township of the first class not having a board of health or body acting as such, to the health officer appointed by the State department of health for such district upon blanks supplied for that purpose, in which report he shall, over his or her own signature, state the name of the disease and the name, age, sex, color, nativity, and occupation, if any, of the person suffering therefrom, together with the street and house number of the premises in which said person may be located, or otherwise sufficiently designate the same, the date of the onset of the disease, the name and occupation of the householder in whose family the disease may have occurred, the number of children in said household attending school, and the name or names of the school or schools so attended, together with such information relating to said case as may be required by said health authorities and the State department of health.

SEC. 2. Upon receipt by the health authorities of any township of the first class, borough, or city, or by the health officer of the State department of health, of a report of the existence of a case of anthrax, bubonic plague, cerebrospinal meningitis (epidemic) (cerebrospinal fever, spotted fever), chicken-pox, Asiatic cholera, diphtheria (diphtheritic croup, membranous croup, putrid sore throat), German measles, glanders (farcy), leprosy, malarial fever, measles, mumps, relapsing fever, scarlet fever (scarlatina, scarlet rash), smallpox (variola, varioloid), typhoid fever, paratyphoid fever, typhus fever, whooping cough, or yellow fever the said health authorities, or the health officer of the State department of health, as the case may be, shall quarantine or cause to be quarantined the premises in which such disease exists; and any person or persons who has or have been exposed thereto in the manner prescribed by the rules

and regulations, both of said health authorities and the State department of health, and shall post or cause to be posted in a conspicuous place or places upon the premises in which said disease may be located a placard or placards upon which shall be printed in conspicuous letters the name of the disease from which the person or persons in said house or premises is or are suffering, with the warning that the said premises are quarantined, that no person or persons other than the attending physician and trained nurse shall enter or leave the said premises except by permission of the health authorities, and setting forth the penalties prescribed by this act for violations of quarantine: *Provided*, That variola or varioloid shall be placarded as "smallpox," and that diphtheritic croup, membranous croup, and putrid sore throat shall be placarded as "diphtheria," that scarlatina and scarlet rash shall be placarded as "scarlet fever," and that paratyphoid fever shall be placarded as "typhoid fever": *Provided further*, That, in addition to the placarding aforesaid, said health authorities may, for the purpose of enforcing quarantine regulations, place a guard or guards over said house or premises.

SEC. 3. That the said placard or placards shall remain in place until the expiration of the quarantine period fixed by the health authorities, and the recovery, death, or removal of the person or persons affected; and shall only be removed by the health officer, at which time he shall disinfect the premises, except for typhoid fever and paratyphoid fever, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the health authorities and the State department of health regarding the destruction and disinfection of infected bedding, clothing, and other articles which have been exposed to infection, and the disinfection of rooms, premises, and inmates.

SEC. 4. The quarantine period for anthrax, bubonic plague, cerebrospinal meningitis (epidemic) (cerebrospinal fever, spotted fever), Asiatic cholera, typhus fever, yellow fever, relapsing fever, leprosy, and whooping cough shall be until the recovery, death, or removal of the patient so suffering, and shall be determined in accordance with the rules and regulations of the health authorities. The quarantine period for smallpox (variola, varioloid) and scarlet fever (scarlatina, scarlet rash) shall be a minimum period of 30 days, or until such time thereafter as the last person in the premises so suffering shall have fully recovered, or until death or removal. The quarantine period for diphtheria (diphtheritic croup, membranous croup, putrid sore throat) shall be a minimum period of 21 days, or until complete recovery or the death or removal of the patient: *Provided*, That if antitoxin has been used for curative purposes for the patient, and for the immunizing of all of the inmates of the premises, and two negative bacteriological cultures have been secured from the diseased area of each patient on the premises, for two successive days, the minimum period of quarantine may be 14 days. The quarantine period for measles, German measles, chicken-pox, and mumps shall be for a minimum period of 16 days, or until the recovery of the last person on the premises so suffering, or until complete recovery or the death or removal of the patient.

SEC. 5. No child or other person suffering from anthrax, bubonic plague, cerebrospinal meningitis (epidemic) (cerebrospinal fever, spotted fever), Asiatic cholera, smallpox (variola, varioloid), typhus fever, yellow fever, relapsing fever, leprosy, diphtheria (diphtheritic croup, membranous croup, putrid sore throat), measles, German measles, glanders (farcy), chicken-pox, mumps, or whooping cough shall be permitted to attend any place of amusement, or any church, or any other public gathering, or to be exposed on any public street, or in any store, shop, factory, or other place of business, or be permitted to attend any public, private, parochial, Sunday, or other school; and

the teachers of public schools, and the principals, superintendents, teachers, or other persons in charge of private, parochial, Sunday, or other similar schools, are hereby required to exclude any of such persons from said schools; such exclusion to continue until the case has recovered, the quarantine lifted, and the premises thoroughly disinfected.

SEC. 6. No child or other person suffering from scarlet fever (scarlatina, scarlet rash) shall be permitted to attend any place of amusement, or any church, or other public gathering, or to be exposed on any public street, or in any store, shop, factory, or other place of business, or be permitted to attend any public, private, parochial, Sunday, or other school; and the teachers of public schools, and the principals, superintendents, teachers, or other persons in charge of private, parochial, Sunday, or other schools, are hereby required to exclude any and all such persons and children from said school; such exclusion to continue for a period of 10 days following the removal of quarantine and a thorough disinfection of the premises, subject to a certificate of complete recovery furnished to the health authorities by the attending physician.

SEC. 7. No child or other person residing in the same premises with any person suffering from anthrax, bubonic plague, cerebrospinal meningitis (epidemic) (cerebrospinal fever, spotted fever), Asiatic cholera, smallpox, (variola, varicoid), typhus fever, yellow fever, scarlet fever (scarlatina, scarlet rash), relapsing fever, leprosy, diphtheria (diphtheritic croup, membranous croup, putrid sore throat), measles, German measles, chicken-pox, or mumps shall be permitted to attend any place of amusement, or any church, or other public gathering, or to be exposed, except by permission of the health authorities, on any public street or in any store, shop, factory, or other place of business, or be permitted to attend any public, private, parochial, Sunday, or other schools; and the teachers of public schools, and the principals, superintendents, teachers, or other persons in charge of private, parochial, Sunday, or other similar schools, are hereby required to exclude any and all of such persons from said schools; such exclusion to continue until quarantine is lifted and the premises thoroughly disinfected.

SEC. 8. Any child or person residing on the same premises with any person suffering from anthrax, cerebrospinal meningitis (epidemic) (cerebrospinal fever, spotted fever), or typhus fever may be allowed, after taking a disinfecting bath and putting on disinfected clothing, to remove from the said premises and take up his or her residence on other premises, and may after such removal be admitted into any of the said schools; and any child or person residing on the same premises with anyone suffering from diphtheria (diphtheritic croup, membranous croup, putrid sore throat) may be allowed, after taking a disinfecting bath and putting on disinfected clothing, and after antitoxin has been administered for immunizing purposes, to remove from the said premises and take up his or her residence on other premises occupied only by adults; and may, after five days from said removal, be admitted into any of the said schools; and any child or person residing on the same premises with any child suffering from scarlet fever (scarlatina, scarlet rash), measles, German measles, mumps, or chicken pox may be allowed, after taking a disinfecting bath and putting on disinfected clothing, to remove from the said premises and take up his or her residence on other premises occupied only by adults, or by children who are immune to the disease (scarlet fever, scarlatina, scarlet rash, measles, German measles, mumps, or chicken pox) existing on the said premises from which the said child or person has removed, such immunity being shown by the official health records; and may, 14 days after such removal, be admitted to any of the said schools: *Provided*, That if the child or person residing on the

same premises with any person suffering from any of the said diseases (scarlet fever, scarlatina, scarlet rash, measles, German measles, mumps, or chicken-pox) and removing therefrom as above provided is himself or herself immune from the disease existing on the said premises by virtue of a former attack, this fact being shown by the official health records or by other evidence satisfactory to the health authorities, such immune child or person may, on the day following such removal, be admitted to any of the said schools; and any child or person residing on the same premises with any person suffering from relapsing fever may be allowed, after taking a disinfecting bath and putting on disinfected clothing, to remove from the said premises and take up his or her residence on other premises, and may, after 10 days from such removal, be admitted to any of the said schools.

SEC. 9. That every teacher, principal, superintendent, or other person or persons in charge of any public, private, parochial, Sunday, or other school having in any such school any child or person showing an unusual rash or skin eruption, or complaining of soreness in the throat, or having symptoms of whooping cough, or any disease of the eye, shall immediately exclude such child or other person from the schools pending the action of the health authorities, and shall report such fact to the health authorities, and shall report such fact to the health officer of the city, borough, or township, giving the name and residence of such child or other person.

SEC. 10. No child or other person excluded from any school by the provisions of this act shall be readmitted thereto unless he or she, or some person on his or her behalf, shall furnish to the principal, superintendent, or teacher, or other person in charge of said school, a certificate setting forth that the conditions for such readmission prescribed by this act have been complied with, which certificate shall be signed by a person to be designated for that purpose in cities, boroughs, and townships of the first class by the health authorities thereof exclusively; and in townships of the second class, and cities, boroughs, and townships of the first class not having boards of health or bodies acting as such, by the State department of health; and the registry of all public, private, parochial, Sunday, and other schools shall exhibit the names and residences of all children and persons excluded therefrom or readmitted thereto agreeably to the provisions of this or any other act of assembly; and said register shall be open at all times to the inspection of the city, borough, or township authorities and the State department of health and their respective officers and agents.

SEC. 11. Blanks whereon to make the reports and certificates required by this act shall be supplied in cities, boroughs, and townships of the first class by the health authorities thereof respectively; and in townships of the second class, and in cities, boroughs, and townships of the first class not having boards of health or bodies acting as such, by the State department of health.

SEC. 12. It shall be the duty of the health authorities of cities, boroughs, and townships of the first class, respectively, to furnish daily, by mail or otherwise, to principals, superintendents, teachers, and other persons in charge of public, private, parochial, Sunday, and other schools a printed or written bulletin containing the name, location, and disease of all persons suffering from any of the diseases mentioned in sections 5 and 6 of this act upon receipt by them of reports of such cases from physicians, as required by section 1 of this act; and such bulletin shall be daily furnished to such persons in charge of such schools in townships of the second class, and in cities, boroughs, and townships of the first class not having boards of health or bodies acting as such, by the health officer for the State department of health.

Sec. 13. Upon the removal to a hospital or other place, or upon the discharge by the recovery or death of any person or persons who has or have suffered from tuberculosis or any of the diseases mentioned in section 2 of this act all premises which have been occupied by the said person or persons while suffering from any of the said diseases shall be fumigated and disinfected or destroyed at such time and in such manner as may be authorized and required by the health authorities.

Sec. 14. No person suffering from any of the diseases mentioned in section 2 of this act, nor anyone who has charge of the persons so suffering, shall enter any hired vehicle or other public conveyance, or permit anyone in his or her charge who is suffering therefrom to enter such vehicle, without previously securing the consent of health authorities, and notifying the owner or driver thereof that he or she, or the person in his or her charge, is so suffering; and the owner or driver of such vehicle shall immediately provide for the disinfection of such conveyance, under the direction of the health authorities, after it has with the knowledge of such owner or driver conveyed any such sufferer.

Sec. 15. No person suffering from anthrax, bubonic plague, cerebrospinal meningitis (epidemic) (cerebrospinal fever, spotted fever), chicken-pox, Asiatic cholera, diphtheria (diphtheritic croup, membranous croup, putrid sore throat), measles, German measles, glanders (farcy), mumps, relapsing fever, scarlet fever (scarlatina, scarlet rash), smallpox (variola, varioloid), typhus fever, typhoid fever, yellow fever, or whooping cough, shall willfully expose himself or herself in any street or public place, or public conveyance, nor shall any person in charge of anyone so suffering thus expose the sufferer.

Sec. 16. No person shall, without previous disinfection, give, lend, sell, transmit, or expose any bedding, clothing, rags, or other articles which have been exposed to infection from any of the diseases mentioned in section 1 of this act: *Provided*, That such restriction shall not apply to the transmission of articles, with proper precaution, for the purpose of having the same disinfected.

Sec. 17. No person shall let any room, house, or part of a house, in which there has been a person suffering from tuberculosis or any of the diseases mentioned in section 2 of this act, without having such room, house, or part of a house, and all articles therein, previously disinfected to the satisfaction of the health authorities. The keeping of a hotel, boarding house, or apartment house shall be deemed as letting a part of a house to any person who shall be admitted as a guest into such hotel, boarding house, or apartment house.

Sec. 18. The health authorities of the several townships, boroughs, and cities of this Commonwealth may, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to, establish additional rules and regulations regarding the isolation and quarantine of persons who may be suffering from any of the diseases mentioned in section 1 of this act, and for the destruction, disinfection, and fumigation of bedding, clothing, or other infected articles, and for the disinfection and fumigation of houses and premises, and for the carrying out of the provisions of this act, as they may in good faith declare the public safety and health demand; which rules and regulations they may, from time to time, alter or amend, but in no instance shall such rules abridge in any way the provisions of this act or the regulations of the State department of health.

Sec. 19. In the preparation for burial of the body of any person who has died of Asiatic cholera, glanders (farcy), bubonic plague, smallpox (variola, varioloid), yellow fever, typhus fever, scarlet fever (scarlatina, scarlet rash), relapsing fever, cerebrospinal meningitis (epidemic cerebrospinal fever, spotted fever), diphtheria (diphtheritic croup, membranous croup, putrid sore throat), tetanus, or leprosy it shall be the duty of the undertaker, or person acting as such, to thoroughly disinfect and place such body within the

coffin or casket in which it is to be buried within 6 hours after being first called upon to take charge of the same, provided said call is made between the hours of 5 a. m. and 11 p. m.; otherwise, such body shall be placed in such coffin or casket within 12 hours; the coffin or casket then to be closed tightly, and not again opened unless permission be granted by the health authorities for special and satisfactory cause shown.

SEC. 20. The body of a person who has died of any of the diseases mentioned in section 19 of this act shall not remain unburied for a longer period of time than 36 hours after death, unless special permission be granted by the health authorities extending the time during which said body shall remain unburied, for special and satisfactory cause shown. The undertaker, or person acting as such, shall be responsible for any violation of the provisions of this section.

SEC. 21. All services held in connection with the funeral of the body of a person who has died of any of the diseases mentioned in section 19 of this act shall be private, and the attendance thereat shall include only the immediate adult relatives of the deceased, who may not at the time be under absolute quarantine restrictions, and the necessary number of adult pallbearers, and any advertisement of such funeral shall state the cause of death.

SEC. 22. The body of a person who has died of any of the diseases mentioned in section 19 of this act shall in no instance be taken into any church, chapel, public hall, or public building, for the holding of funeral services. The undertaker, or person acting as such, and the sexton, janitor, or other person having control of such church, chapel, public hall, or public building, shall be responsible for any violation of the provisions of this section.

SEC. 23. No undertaker, or person acting as such, at the funeral or burial of the body of a person who has died of any of the diseases mentioned in section 19 of this act, shall furnish or provide for such funeral or burial more than the necessary number of conveyances for such adult relatives as are mentioned in section 21 of this act, and pallbearers; and all such conveyances shall be fumigated and disinfected, at such time and in such manner as may be directed and required by the health authorities.

SEC. 24. The body of a person who has died of any of the diseases mentioned in section 19 of this act shall not be conveyed from any dwelling, or other building or place, to any cemetery or other point or place, except in a hearse, or other vehicle used for the purpose of carrying corpses only, or in such vehicles as shall be satisfactory to the health authorities, and under such regulations as they may in any case adopt. The undertaker, or person acting as such, having charge of the funeral or transportation of such body, shall be responsible for any violation of the provisions of this section.

SEC. 25. The health authorities of the several cities, boroughs, and townships of the first class, shall, at the end of each week, and for the fraction of each week occurring at the end of each month, report to the State department of health, upon blanks supplied for that purpose, a list of all cases of communicable diseases, mentioned in section 1 of this act, which have been reported to them during said period; which report shall contain the name of each person suffering therefrom, respectively, and his or her age, sex, color, and nativity, together with the name of the disease and the date of the onset thereof; and, in the event of no reports of any of said diseases having been received by the aforesaid health authorities, respectively, during any said period, that fact shall be reported to the State department of health.

SEC. 26. Any person who shall remove, deface, cover up, or destroy, or cause to be removed, defaced, covered up, or destroyed, any placard relating to any of the diseases mentioned in section 2 of this act, shall, for every such offense, upon conviction thereof in a summary proceeding before any magistrate or

justice of the peace of the county wherein such offense was committed, be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than \$10 or more than \$100, to be paid to the use of said county, and costs of prosecution, or to be imprisoned in the county jail for a period of not less than 10 days or more than 30 days, or both, at the discretion of the court. Any person, other than the attending physician or trained nurse, who shall enter or leave any quarantined premises without having secured permission from the health authorities, or who shall violate any of the quarantine restrictions imposed by this act, or by the rules and regulations of the health authorities of any city, borough, or township of the first class, or the rules and regulations of the State department of health; or who shall interfere with a health officer or any other duly qualified agent of the State department of health, or of any local board or department of health, in the discharge of his official duties in the placarding, quarantining, disinfecting, or releasing from quarantine of any premises, or in the investigation of any alleged case of a quarantinable disease, shall, for every such offense, upon conviction thereof in a summary proceeding before any magistrate or justice of the peace of the county wherein said offense was committed, be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than \$50 or more than \$100, to be paid to the use of the said county, and costs of prosecution, or to be imprisoned in the county jail for a period of not less than 10 or more than 30 days, or both, at the discretion of the court.

Any physician, undertaker, teacher of a public school, principal of a school, superintendent of a Sunday school, sexton, janitor, parent, or guardian, or any other person or persons who shall fail, neglect, or refuse to comply with, or who shall violate, any of the provisions of this act, shall, for every such offense, upon conviction thereof in a summary proceeding before any magistrate or justice of the peace of the county wherein said offense was committed, be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than \$20 or more than \$100, to be paid to the use of said county, and costs of prosecution, or to be imprisoned in the county jail for a period of not less than 10 or more than 30 days, or both, at the discretion of the court.

SEC. 27. Section 1 (except the enacting clause thereof) and sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19 of an act entitled "An act to provide for the more effectual protection of the public health in the several municipalities of this Commonwealth," approved June 18, 1895, and the act of May 14, A. D. 1909, entitled "An act to safeguard human life and health throughout the Commonwealth, by providing regulations for the control of certain communicable diseases and the prevention of infection therefrom, and prescribing penalties for violation of said regulations," and all other acts, or parts of acts, inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

#### **Public Eating Places—Diseased Employees—Utensils—Common Towels and Common Drinking Cups. (Act 281, May 28, 1915.)**

SECTION 1. That no person or persons, firm, corporation, or common carrier operating or conducting any hotel, restaurant, dining car, or other public eating place in this Commonwealth shall hereafter employ or keep in their employ, in the capacity of cook, waiter, chambermaid, kitchen help, or other house servant, any person or persons who is or are suffering from trachoma, active tuberculosis of the lungs, open skin tuberculosis, syphilis, gonorrhea, open external cancer, or barber's itch; and all persons so employed who, at the time of the passage of this act, are suffering from any of the said diseases shall at once be excluded from such employment in such hotel, restaurant, dining car, or other public eating place.